

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES (CDSS) AND TRIBAL  
TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF)  
ADMINISTRATORS' MEETING SUMMARY  
November 6, 2018  
744 P Street, OB-9, Room 1804  
Sacramento, CA  
9:00 am – 12:00 pm**

This document summarizes key issues discussed at the meeting between Tribal TANF Administrators (TTA) and leaders, and CDSS representatives on November 6, 2018.

*Action items from the prior Tribal TANF Administrators' meeting on August 14, 2018, were met.*

**Legislative Updates**

Elaine Ward, California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) Eligibility Bureau Chief, provided legislative updates.

Assembly Bill (AB) 1811, effective April 1, 2019, will increase the CalWORKs maximum aid payment amounts by ten percent.

AB 2030 requires the CDSS to include questions regarding disabilities, the need for accommodation due to disability, or any experience of domestic violence on the initial application and semiannual report forms.

Senate Bill (SB) 726, effective July 1, 2019, will increase the threshold for CalWORKs overpayments from \$35 to \$250, and allow for the expungement of overpayments on cases that have been closed for thirty-six consecutive months or longer.

**Federal Updates**

Kim Johnson, Deputy Director of the Family Engagement and Empowerment Division, stated there was nothing new regarding TANF reauthorization, which is valid until December 7, 2018.

The California Outcomes and Accountability Review (Cal-OAR) initiative is looking to create new measures to evaluate client success in the CalWORKs program. The Cal-OAR initiative is currently in the stakeholder process to determine short-, medium-, and long-term success. Handouts regarding performance indicators were distributed. Self-assessment reports from counties will be due every three years, with the first one due in 2019. Financial incentives will be offered, but have yet to be determined.

CalWORKs 2.0, a county-initiated program, gives county staff new tools and resources to work with families to meet their goals. CalWORKs 2.0 should help in engagement strategies related to Cal-OAR.

Updates were given regarding the CalWORKs Housing Support Program (HSP). Funding for HSP increased from twenty million dollars to seventy million dollars and is expected to increase by another twenty million dollars next year. Four tribes applied to the Request for

Proposal (RFP), which is now closed. Information will be shared when it becomes available next year.

### **CDSS Tribal Affairs Team**

Heather Hostler, Director of the Office of Tribal Affairs (OTA), provided a briefing on the Tribal Consultation Summit, held on September 27, 2018. Highlights from the Summit included the Tribal TANF methodology presentation and the CalFresh Employment and Training (E&T) presentation. TTAs requested for more technical assistance from CalFresh E&T, in addition to handbooks and resources. These discussions will continue in the Tribal Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting on November 28, 2018.

The PowerPoint of the format and structure of the TAC meeting was shared. The agenda for the upcoming TAC meeting was handed out.

### **CalFresh Updates**

Jennifer Niklas, CalFresh Policy Section Chief, provided updates about the Supplemental Security Income and/or California State Supplementary Payment (SSI/SSP) Cash-Out policy. Recipients receiving SSI/SSP have not been eligible to receive CalFresh benefits since 1974. AB 1811 reverses the SSI/SSP cash-out policy, allowing SSI/SSP recipients to be eligible for CalFresh, effective June 1, 2019. Negatively impacted households who would get a decrease in the CalFresh amount, will receive a Supplemental Nutrition Benefit. The Transitional Nutrition Benefit Program will allow benefits to be granted to a CalFresh household that becomes ineligible due to a previously excluded SSI/SSP recipient being added to the household.

Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) sent out a letter on September 13, 2018, about the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR). Low-income households living on Indian reservations and Native American families receiving SSI may now be eligible to FDPIR.

There are currently five different stakeholder workgroups meeting once a month: customer experience group, outreach group, data technical group, automation group and all stakeholder group. The next meeting will be on November 14, 2018.

### **Office of Child Abuse Prevention**

Hillary Konrad, Prevention Network Development Manager, presented on the Road to Resilience grant, which focuses on substance-exposed infants. The target population are pregnant women with known histories of substance use, pregnant women with current substance use, and mothers of substance-exposed infants. Selected grantees will be provided with in-home case management that links them to community-based agencies and resources for parenting and concrete supports to mitigate risks of substance exposure and maltreatment to infants. Grant awards will be given to a maximum of fifteen grantees at approximately \$400,000 to \$600,00 per grantee per year from July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2022. To apply for funding, the application package must be submitted by December 14, 2018. Questions regarding the grant should be submitted to [Kirandeep.Johl@dss.ca.gov](mailto:Kirandeep.Johl@dss.ca.gov), by November 20, 2018.

Copies of the PowerPoint presentation were shared.

## **California Consortium for Urban Indian Health (CCUIH) Presentation**

Virginia Hedrick, Director of Policy and Planning, gave an informative overview on the opioid epidemic and the Tribal Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Project. MAT uses medications along with behavioral therapies and counseling to treat substance use disorder and to prevent overdose.

Copies of the PowerPoint presentation were shared.

## **Tribal TANF Updates**

Ryan Tsukiji, Manager of the Tribal TANF Unit, reminded TTAs that the current Memorandum of Understandings (MOU) will expire June 30, 2019. We will be sending out a template early next week to get started on the MOU renewals.

## **Open Discussion**

TTAs requested clarification regarding how to complete the Schedule B and suggested possible workgroup around developing instructions.

## **CDSS ACTION ITEMS**

- Share link regarding Home Safe
- Share link regarding Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)
- Change upcoming dates of the TTAs' meeting to proposed dates of February 5, 2019, and November 5, 2019
- Share county contacts with Tribal TANF Programs so they can let counties know they want to be engaged in Cal-OAR
- Share CalFresh E&T resources to Tribal TANF programs (ie: Handbooks/literature)
- Send a link to FNS' FDPIR letter
- Share SSI Cash-out Reversal Outreach materials (if available)
- Share MAT pamphlets from CCUIH

## **PROPOSED PRESENTATIONS**

None

## **NEXT TRIBAL TANF ADMINISTRATORS' MEETINGS**

Tuesday, February 5, 2019, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Tuesday, May 14, 2019, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Tuesday, August 13, 2019, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Tuesday, November 5, 2019, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm